

Docket Number: 008312-0290587

Client Reference: T41A-01S1205-1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION OF

Confirmation No.: 5292

WATANABE et al.

Group Art Unit: 3653

Appln. No.: 10/023,744

Examiner: SCHLAK, DANIEL K

Filed: December 21, 2001

Title: PROCESSING APPARATUS OF SHEETS

March 5, 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication 2001-273538 (Application No. 2000-82593) is listed on the attached PTO-1449. This application is discussed at page 10, line 12 of the specification of the present application. As shown in Fig. 1 of the patent publication, a paper money processor 1 is provided with an attitude correction device 20 which corrects the attitude of a paper money P taken onto a carrying line 12 from a throwing-in part 4. A detection part 30 detects features such as the front or rear side, the top or bottom side, the denomination, the normal/damaged state of the paper money of which the attitude has been corrected. A front/rear side inverting mechanism 34 selectively inverts the paper money on the basis of the detection result in the detection part 30. A top/bottom side inverting mechanism 40 selectively rotates the paper money. Accumulation parts 54 and 61 to 64 arrange all paper money in the same direction to accumulate them by denominations. The paper money P taken out from the throwing-in part 4 is turned out and/or rotated on the basis of the detection result in the detection part 30 to automatically arrange all paper money P in the same direction.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

Pillsbury Winthrop LLP

By: 

Dale S. Lazar

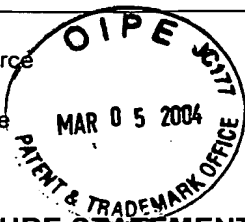
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FORM PTO-1449 (modified)
To: U.S. Department of Commerce
(PW FORM PAT-1449)
Patent and Trademark Office



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0290567

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

Applicant: HIROSHI WATANABE

Appln. No.: 10/023,744

Filing Date: December 21, 2001

Date: March 5, 2004

Page

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of

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Examiner: Daniel K. Schlak Group Art Unit: 3653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Name (Family Name of First Inventor)	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date (if appropriate)
	AR					
	BR					
	CR					
	DR					
	ER					
	FR					
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	HR					
	IR					
	JR					
	KR					
	LR					
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document Number	Date MM/YYYY	Country	Inventor Name		English Abstract		Translation Readily Available	
						Enclosed	No	Enclose	No
	OR 2001-273538	10/5/01	Japan	Toshiba Corp.		Yes			
	PR								
	QR								
	RR								
	SR								
	TR								
	UR								
	VR								
	WR								
	XR								

OTHER (Including in this order Author, Title, Periodical Name, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	YR				
	ZR				
	AAR				
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	DDR				

Examiner

Date Considered:

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.